23rd October 1956]

Opening of a Deputy Tahsildar's office at Tirurangadi, South Malabar

* 302 *Q.*—Sri C. AHMED KUTTI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to open a Deputy Tahsildar's office as Tirurangadi in Tirur taluk, South Malabar?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : No, Sir.

Sri K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE : Before the constitution of the present Tirur taluk, there was a Deputy Tahsildar's office in Tirurangadi. From the practical point of view and from the point of view of the need of the public, there is need for the opening of a Deputy Tahsildar's office there. Considering this, will the Government take steps to open a Deputy Tahsildar's office there?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : This change was made consequent on the separation of the judiciary from the executive. It will take some time to watch how it works. Then only the Government will look into the matter.

Mr. SPEAKER : With the leave of the House, the question hour will be extended by fifteen minutes.

Electrification of Payyanur Community Development Block area

* 303 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government have decided to introduce electricity in Payyanur Community Development Block area, North Malabar?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : A major ten-year scheme for extension of power to Payyanur, Madai, *etc.*, firkas in Malabar district which was evolved during 1955 had to be deferred as it proved unremunerative. The scheme is, however, being reinvestigated to see whether it could be made remunerative by the addition of larger number of consumers.

Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Are the Government aware that they have sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs for the purpose of introduction of electricity in Payyanur Community Development Block area? If the Government are not going to introduce electricity, will they see that that amount is utilized on some other schemes intended to benefit that area?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : That is a separate question which must be addressed to the Community Project authorities, because it is up to them to see whether it is utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned or for any other purpose. As far as electricity is concerned,

[23rd October 1956

the scheme is being reinvestigated to see whether it can be made remunerative. If it could be made remunerative, certainly we will take up the scheme.

Issue of permits to small fleet owners

12 noon. * 304 *Q*.—Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Regional Transport Authorities not to issue permits to small fleet owners;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any complaints from motor operators in Malabar that the marking system recently introduced by Government eliminates the small operators from the field; and

(*c*) whether the Government have prescribed the minimum standards for the workshops to be maintained by operators?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN : (*a*) No; on the other hand, Government have given preference to viable units of 5 buses.

(*b*) No, the system is in favour of small operators.

(*c*) Yes, Sir.

While issuing certain directions under section 43 (A) (1) of the Motor Vehicles Act regarding the principles to be observed by Transport Authorities in the matter of grant of stage carriage permits, variation or extension of routes, etc., the Government considered that efficiency in running depends on the constant attention which the permit-holders, with their own workshop, can give. The minimum equipment of workshop to be considered to satisfy this preference is shown in the statement[a] placed on the table of the House.

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Sir, I wonder how the Hon. Minister asserts that the rule-making system is working to the advantage of the small operators. If, according to him, one-bus owners and two-bus owners are not small operators, I cannot understand who are small bus owners. I can quote an instance in which a bus operator owning only one bus was not . . .

Mr. SPEAKER : I may tell the hon. Member that he has to put a supplementary question.

Sri M. KALYANASUNDARAM : I am coming to that. I am now explaining the point. When a poor man got one additional bus, a fleet owner, who is having 60 buses, took the matter in appeal, and with the aid of the marking system, he was able

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 65 infra.